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SENATE

{ REPORT
No. 67

MRS. VERA RAUPE

JANUARY 29, 1951.—Ordered to be printed

Mr. McCARRAN, from the Committee on the Judiciary, submitted the following

REPORT

[To accompany S. 371]

The Committee on the Judiciary, to which was referred the bill (S. 371) for the relief of Mrs. Vera Raupe, having considered the same, reports favorably thereon with an amendment in the nature of a substitute and recommends that the bill, as amended, do pass.

AMENDMENT

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert in lieu thereof the following:

That for the purposes of the immigration and naturalization laws, Mrs. Vera Raupe shall be held and considered to have been lawfully admitted to the United States for permanent residence as of the date of the enactment of this act, upon payment of the required visa fee and head tax. Upon the granting of permanent residence to such alien as provided for in this act, the Secretary of State shall instruct the proper quota control officer to deduct one number from the appropriate quota for the first year that such quota is available.

PURPOSE OF THE BILL

The purpose of the bill, as amended, is to grant the status of permanent residence in the United States to Mrs. Vera Raupe. The bill provides for an appropriate quota deduction and for the payment of the required visa fee and head tax.

STATEMENT OF FACTS

The beneficiary of the bill is a 23-year-old native and citizen of Czechoslovakia who last entered the United States as a visitor on February 6, 1948, at the invitation of Harold W. Raupe, a United

States citizen. Shortly after her arrival, she and Mr. Raupe were married. Subsequently, they were divorced and she is presently residing in Dallas, Tex., and is being supported by her former husband's relatives. The record reveals that Mrs. Raupe acted as interpreter for the American forces and also worked for the American Red Cross while in Czechoslovakia.

A letter dated March 20, 1950, to the chairman of the Committee on the Judiciary of the House of Representatives from the Assistant to the Attorney General with reference to H. R. 5782, which was a bill introduced in the Eighty-first Congress for the relief of the same alien, reads as follows:

MARCH 20, 1950.

Hon. EMANUEL CELLER,

*Chairman, Committee on the Judiciary, House of Representatives,
Washington, D. C.*

MY DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: This is in response to your request for the views of the Department of Justice relative to the bill (H. R. 5782) for the relief of Mrs. Vera Raupe, an alien.

The bill would provide that Mrs. Vera Raupe shall be considered to have been lawfully admitted to the United States for permanent residence on February 6, 1948. It would also direct the Secretary of State to instruct the quota-control officer to deduct one number from the appropriate immigration quota.

The files of the Immigration and Naturalization Service of this Department disclose that Mrs. Vera Raupe, nee Kohoutek, is a native and citizen of Czechoslovakia, having been born in Berehobo, Czechoslovakia, on February 28, 1927. She entered the United States at the port of New York, via airplane on February 6, 1948, when she was temporarily admitted under section 3 (2) of the Immigration Act of 1924, as a visitor until April 30, 1948. On May 10, 1948, she applied for an extension of her temporary admission, but her application could not be considered since she was unable to have her passport revalidated. She was also the beneficiary of a petition for the issuance of a nonquota immigration visa as the wife of a citizen of the United States, on the basis of a petition filed by her husband, who subsequently withdrew his petition because he had filed a suit for divorce. Her application for adjustment of her status pursuant to section 4 of the Displaced Persons Act of 1948 was denied on September 19, 1949, on the ground that she had not established that she could not return to her native country because of fear of persecution on account of race, religion, or political opinion. She has remained in the United States longer than permitted as a temporary visitor and she is now considered as being unlawfully in this country. Proceedings to enforce her departure, however, were ordered deferred pending consideration of this bill.

Mrs. Raupe stated that she attended the grade schools in her native town, went to Prague in 1938, where she attended secondary schools until 1942, when she entered Victoria College, a finishing school for young women at Prague. She further stated that the school was closed during the war, that thereafter she lived with her parents, that her father died in 1944, and that her mother, brother, and grandmother still reside in her native country. It appears that Harold W. Raupe, an American citizen, received the alien's name from a friend, a native of Czechoslovakia, who had married a United States citizen and was residing in this country. The alien stated that after corresponding with Mr. Raupe she received an invitation to visit him and his family in Oklahoma City, Okla. In response to the invitation she arrived in this country as above stated and was married to Mr. Raupe the following day. The record indicates that they separated in January 1949, when Mr. Raupe instituted proceedings for a divorce. Mrs. Raupe is presently residing at the YWCA in Dallas, Tex. She is not employed, but is being supported by her brothers-in-law, and stated that she earns about \$20 a week making miniature dolls. Several persons who were interviewed spoke very favorably of her.

The quota of Czechoslovakia, to which Mrs. Raupe is chargeable, is over-subscribed and a visa is not readily obtainable. The record, however, fails to present considerations sufficient to justify the enactment of special legislation granting her a preference over other aliens abroad who are awaiting an opportunity to come to this country for permanent residence.

Accordingly, this Department is unable to recommend enactment of the measure.

Yours sincerely,

PEYTON FORD,
The Assistant to the Attorney General.

Congressman J. Frank Wilson submitted the following information with reference to the beneficiary of the bill:

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, D. C., May 29, 1950.

HON. FRANCIS E. WALTER,
*Chairman, Subcommittee on Immigration and Naturalization,
House Committee on the Judiciary, Washington, D. C.*

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: I wish to thank you for the recent hearing held before your subcommittee on H. R. 5782 introduced in behalf of Mrs. Vera Raupe.

Mrs. Raupe, a native of Czechoslovakia, entered the United States in 1948 under the Immigration Act as a visitor at the invitation of Mr. Harold W. Raupe, an American citizen, who had been corresponding with her for some 6 months and offered marriage upon her arrival. Shortly after her arrival in this country the marriage was consummated, but unfortunately it was not a success and Mr. Raupe filed suit for divorce.

Mrs. Raupe acted as interpreter for the American forces as well as worked for the American Red Cross while in Czechoslovakia. Because of her anticomunistic ideals and the loss of connection with relatives, it would be physically dangerous for Mrs. Raupe to return. The quota of Czechoslovakia is oversubscribed and it will require special legislation to permit her to remain in the United States for permanent residence.

Many substantial citizens are interested in the welfare of Mrs. Vera Raupe. In addition to the witnesses appearing before your committee in support of this proposed legislation, I have received telephone calls or communications from Mr. Sid Hansen, former fire chief of Dallas, Tex.; Mr. John Dunlap, agent in charge, Internal Revenue, Dallas, Tex.; Mrs. D. B. Malernee, Oklahoma City, Okla.; Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Haden and family, Oklahoma City, Okla.; and Mr. Edgar E. Hoppe, tax adviser, Commissioners Management Staff, Bureau of Internal Revenue, Washington, D. C. Attached hereto are several communications, two from Mrs. Raupe's brothers-in-law, testifying to her good moral standards, character, physical health and habits and recommending her for admission as a citizen of this country. The brothers-in-law of Mrs. Raupe and their families have a high regard for Mrs. Vera Raupe, stating she is not now and will not become a charge of the Government and urged that she remain as one of the family.

I am of the opinion, from the facts brought out in this case, that a great injustice would be done this young lady if she is not permitted to remain for the purpose of permanent residence. I strongly urge the enactment of H. R. 5782.

Sincerely yours,

J. FRANK WILSON, *Member of Congress.*

DALLAS, TEX., August 8, 1949.

Re Mrs. Vera Kohoutkova Raupe, Dallas, Tex.

HON. J. FRANK WILSON,
House of Representatives, Washington, D. C.

DEAR MR. WILSON: Mrs. Vera Kohoutkova Raupe entered the United States on or about February 6, 1948. Upon her arrival in New York she immediately came via air to Dallas where she was met by Mrs. Raupe and myself.

Shortly after her arrival she was married to my brother, Harold W. Raupe. After a few months she was separated from my brother and for a period of several months she lived in our home. Later she moved to the Young Women's Christian Association in order that she might have the association of younger women.

We have always considered Vera Raupe as one of our family, notwithstanding the unsuccessful marriage with my brother. She is always welcome in our home and every 2 or 3 weeks she spends the week end with us as she is doing at this moment.

Vera is a lovely young lady and has high moral standards. She would be a credit to any country as a citizen. Because of her excellent background she can adapt herself and soon fit into any picture. We have always vouched for Vera that she has not, nor will ever be a charge to the Government. Many tales are told of the intolerable conditions in her native country since it has been communized. In the event of an emergency she would be of invaluable service to this Government.

The writer is a veteran of the military service of the United States, having spent over 8 years in active duty in both World Wars, and is active in Reserve affairs with a Reserve unit now at Love Field in the capacity of executive officer of the Four hundred and sixty-fifth Quartermaster Group.

If you, Mr. Wilson, can help Vera to obtain her papers you will do a service to a deserving girl and the Government will never regret admitting her as a citizen.

FLOYD D. RAUPE.

STATE OF TEXAS,

County of Dallas, City of Dallas, ss:

On this 8th day of August 1949, personally appeared before me Floyd D. Raupe, to me known to be the individual who executed the foregoing instrument, and he duly acknowledged to me that he executed same, and being duly sworn, made oath that the statements contained therein are true and correct.

[SEAL]

L. H. SMITH, *Dallas, Tex.*

AFFIDAVIT OF FRED G. RAUPE

STATE OF OKLAHOMA,

Oklahoma County, ss:

Fred G. Raupe, of lawful age, being first duly sworn upon his oath, says:

I am and have been for many years a resident of Oklahoma County, State of Oklahoma. I am personally acquainted with Vera Raupe and know her well. She is of legal age, of highest moral character, has a pleasant appearance, is well educated, and possessed of an engaging personality.

Said Vera Raupe is in good physical health and is capable of earning her own livelihood and of maintaining herself without any assistance.

I am of the firm opinion that Vera Raupe would be a good and valuable citizen of the United States of America.

The said Vera Raupe has been a guest in my home for several months upon one occasion and I had the opportunity to become completely acquainted with her, her habits, personality, and character and the foregoing is predicated upon my personal acquaintance and knowledge of said Vera Raupe.

Further affiant sayeth not.

FRED G. RAUPE.

Before me, the undersigned, a notary public in and for said county and State, on this 7th day of September 1949, personally appeared Fred G. Raupe, to me known to be the identical person who executed the within and foregoing instrument, and acknowledged to me that he executed the same as his free and voluntary act and deed for the uses and purposes therein set forth.

Witness my hand and official seal the day and year last shown above.

[SEAL]

LOIS MCCOLGIN, *Notary Public.*

My commission expires September 9, 1951.

AFFIDAVIT OF JAMES F. GARDNER

Before the undersigned authority personally appeared James F. Gardner, to me well known, and after being sworn did, under oath, depose and say:

I have known Mrs. Vera Kohoutek Raupe ever since she first arrived in the United States from Czechoslovakia. I have been representing her in her attempt to settle her immigration status with the State Department for the purpose of getting her a 4-A preferred immigration visa by virtue of her status as the wife of an American citizen.

During my acquaintance with her I found her to be a very high type person, extremely well educated, and extremely and sincerely interested in becoming a citizen of the United States because of her deep feeling for this country. She is extremely talented artistically, and I have been advised further that she has taken

a course as a beauty counselor, and has a position as a beauty counselor division manager waiting for her in Dallas as soon as her immigration status will allow her to take employment.

I have no hesitancy whatever in recommending Mrs. Vera Kohoutek Raupe as a citizen for admission to the United States as a citizen of the United States, for I feel that she will always do credit to her adopted country, and will make a fine, outstanding, intelligent, and loyal citizen.

Further the deponent sayeth not.

JAMES F. GARDNER.

Sworn and subscribed to by me, this 5th day of August A. D. 1949.

[SEAL]

TONIE SCHULTE,
Notary Public, Bexar County, Tex.

YOUNG WOMEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION,
Dallas, Tex., August 2, 1949.

Re Mrs. Vera Kohoutkova Raupe.

Hon. J. FRANK WILSON,
House of Representatives, Washington, D. C.

DEAR SIR: Mrs. Vera Kohoutkova Raupe was referred to the YWCA for housing on March 8, 1949, by her sister-in-law, Mrs. F. D. Raupe, Dallas, Tex.

In the interview Mrs. Raupe stated that Vera was the wife of her husband's brother. She had entered the United States at New York on a visitor's visa as Vera Kohoutkova from Prague, Czechoslovakia, on February 6, 1948.

The sister-in-law stated that Vera's marriage had proved unsuccessful, and at the time she was an invited guest in their home. It was felt by Vera and Mr. and Mrs. Raupe that it would be better for Vera to live at the YWCA residence where she might have the association of young women of her own age. The Raupe family agreed to assume the responsibility for her maintenance. She was referred to the YWCA residence for housing and is still with us.

My contacts with Vera have been in the capacity of counselor. During the period of time she has been with us we have had a number of conferences. I have found Vera to be a young woman of impeccable character, good judgment, and splendid attitudes. She is industrious and adaptable. She has made a real contribution to the life of the young women at the YWCA residence through her fine philosophy of life, education, culture, and appreciation of young womanhood.

The Young Women's Christian Association will be glad to continue to counsel with Vera as long as she feels the need of the services we have to offer.

Yours very truly,

Mrs. LOUISE GREENBAUM,
Director, Personal Service Department.

STATE OF TEXAS,
County of Dallas, City of Dallas, ss:

On this second day of August, 1949, personally appeared before me the said Mrs. Louise Greenbaum, to me known to be the individual who executed the foregoing instrument, and she duly acknowledged to me that she executed the same, and being duly sworn by me, made oath that the statements contained therein are true.

[SEAL]

MARJORIE LATHEM, Notary Public.

The bill has been amended to conform with the policy of the committee in granting permanent residence in the United States to an alien as of the date of the adjustment rather than as of the date of last entry into the United States.

The committee, after consideration of all the facts in the case, is of the opinion that the bill (S. 371), as amended, should be enacted.

